

Message Text

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73

ORIGIN TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01

SS-15 STR-01 TAR-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /083 R

DRAFTED BY TREAS:JWALLAR

APPROVED BY EB/OT/STA:WCLARK, JR.

EB/OT/STA:ECONSTABLE

AF/S:DCHRISTENSEN

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R 281706Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, SF

SUBJECT: COUNTERVAILING DUTIES: FERROCHROME

REF: STATE 014829

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY OFFICE

1. TREASURY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MACDONALD DELIVERED
CUSTOMS TECHNICAL LETTER (REFTEL) TO SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSY
ECONOMIC MINISTER LUBBE JANUARY 22. MACDONALD EXPLAINED
THAT NEWLY ENACTED TRADE ACT REQUIRED TREASURY TO PUBLISH
NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF PETITION ON SOUTH AFRICAN FERROCHROME
EXPORTS AND MAKE A PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION BY JULY 4,
1975. MACDONALD EXPRESSED HOPE THAT INQUIRY WOULD BE
RESOLVED WITHOUT DAMAGING TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND
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SOUTH AFRICA.

2. MACDONALD BRIEFLY NOTED ALLEGATIONS RAISED IN PETITION AND INDICATED THAT GOVERNMENT SUPPLY OF INEXPENSIVE LABOR THROUGH APARTHEID LAWS WAS NOT INCLUDED IN LETTER BECAUSE TREASURY WAS QUOTE HIGHLY DOUBTFUL END QUOTE THAT IT WAS BOUNTY OR GRANT.

3. LUBBE APPRECIATED PERSONAL MEETING WITH MACDONALD AND

HOPED THAT TRADE RELATIONS WOULD BE MAINTAINED ON FRIENDLY LEVEL. HE NOTED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN FERROCHROME EXPORTERS HAD ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES RECENTLY WITH CONGESTION OF PORTS IN SOUTH AFRICA. ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH DETAILS OF ALLEGATIONS HE ASKED TREASURY'S OPINION OF PETITION. MACDONALD STATED THAT TREASURY HAD FORMULATED NO OPINION ON VALIDITY OF ALLEGATIONS.

4. LUBBE RETURNING TO SOUTH AFRICA FOR LEAVE AND MAY TAKE COPY OF LETTER AND PETITION. MACDONALD SAID HE WAS PLEASED THAT LUBBE MAY HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN SITUATION TO SOUTH AFRICAN OFFICIALS AND OFFERED TO SEND TREASURY REPRESENTATIVE TO DISCUSS TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF INQUIRY IF NECESSARY.

5. MEETING FRIENDLY AND CORDIAL WITH BOTH SIDES STRESSING NEED TO KEEP MATTER LOW KEY AND MAINTAIN GOOD TRADE RELATIONS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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